(c) The number of persons benefited under Swarna Jayanti Shahari Rozgar Yojana (SJSRY), in Rajasthan, cumulatively, since the inception of the Scheme on 1.12.1997 and as reported up to 31.3.2007, is as under:

Number of Urban poor assisted to set up individual/group micro-enterprises	_	48041
Number of urban poor imparted skill training	_	22774
Number of Mandays of work generated under wage employment	_	23.47Lakhs

The total cumulative expenditure (both Central and State Share) reported by the State Government under Swarna Jayanti Shahari Rozgar Yojana (SJSRY) being Rs. 6193.61 lakhs and the estimated number of urban . poor in Rajasthan (in 1990-2000) being 26.78 lakhs, the per capita expenditure under SJSRY in Rajasthan is Rs. 238.28/-.

MoU to protect Indian workers

3875. SHRI V. HANUMANTHA RAO: Will the Minister of OVERSEAS INDIAN AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have signed a MoU with Government of Kuwait to protect Indian workers in that country;

(b) if so, the details of the MoU;

(c) whether such MoUs would be signed with all countries which have a significant number of Indian workers;

(d) whether it is a fact that Government are very slow to take up grievances of widows whose husbands died while working overseas; and

(e) the steps proposed to induce efficiency in Government to respond quickly to complaints of families of overseas workers?

THE MINISTER OF OVERSEAS INDIAN AFFAIRS (SHRI VAYALAR RAVI): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The Government has signed an MoU on Labour, Employment and Manpower Development with the State of Kuwait. The MoU *inter alia,* would facilitate recruitment of manpower between the two countries and ensure welfare of the Overseas Indian workers. The MoU also envisages constitution of a Joint Working Group of the two countries to implement the same.

(c) The Government proposes to sign similar agreement with other countries which have significant number of Indian workers.

(d) and (e) No, Sir. Whenever, any case relating to payment of compensation in respect of any emigrant comes to the notice of the Ministry, the matter is taken up immediately with the Indian Embassy/ Mission concerned, who in turn takes up the matter with the foreign employer for payment of suitable compensation. During 2006-07, out of the 19 compensation related cases taken up by the Ministry, compensation has been paid in four cases.

The Government has also strengthened the emigration division of the Ministry to process such cases speedily as and when they are received.

The labour agreement signed between India and some of the labour receiving countries also take care of such matters.

Amendment in Anti-Dowry Law

†3876. SHRI MAKENDRA SAHNI: Will the Minister of OVERSEAS INDIAN AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Non-Resident Indians have made a demand to Government with regard to making an amendment in the Anti-Dowry Law; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF OVERSEAS INDIAN AFFAIRS (SHRI VAYALAR RAVI): (a) and (b) A couple of representations have been received against alleged misuse of Section 498-A of the Indian Penal Code and based on the comments of National Commission for Women and Crime Against Women Cell, Delhi Police, the Government is of the view that no dilution of the provisions relating to dowry is advisable considering the continuing violence against women and their subordination.

Rutgers University of America

†3877. SHRI SHREEGOPAL VYAS: Will the Minister of OVERSEAS INDIAN AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

tOriginal notice of the question was received in Hindi.